CLAIMS

1. A micromirror array device comprising at least two of a plurality of zones of separately controllable tiltable reflecting elements, each of the tiltable reflecting elements of a zone being capable of tilting about an axis of predetermined tilt orientation associated with the zone between a first reflecting position reflecting an incident beam to a predetermined first direction (on direction), and a second reflecting position reflecting the incident beam to a predetermined second direction (off direction), each of said at least two of a plurality of zones having a predetermined off direction for all the reflecting elements in that zone, that is different from the off direction of at least one other zone of said at least two of a plurality of zones.

2. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least two of a plurality of zones comprise two zones.

3. The device of claim 1, wherein said at least two of a plurality of zones comprise four zones.

4. The device of claim 1, wherein the predetermined tilt orientation for all the reflecting elements in a zone is orthogonal to the tilt orientation of the one other zone of said at least two of a plurality of zones.

5 The device of claim 1, wherein said at least two of a plurality of zones are adjacent each other.

6. The device of claim 1, wherein each reflecting element is electrically actuated, being separately controlled by a control unit.

7. The device of claim 1, wherein a lens is further provided in front of the array in a predetermined distance from the array, placed in the on direction of all the reflecting elements, of the plurality of zones.

8. The device of claim 1, wherein a normal of a given reflecting element in a zone of said at least two of a plurality of zones, when the reflecting element is positioned in the off direction coincides at a point on a plane adjacent the lens with a normal of a corresponding reflecting element in one other zone of said at least two of a plurality of zones, when the corresponding reflecting element is positioned in the off direction.

9. The device of claim 1, wherein each of said at least two of a plurality of zones having a predetermined tilt orientation for all the reflecting elements in that zone, that is different from the tilt orientation of at least one other zone of said at least two of a plurality of zones.

10. The device of claim 9, wherein said at least two of a plurality of zones comprise two zones.

11. The device of claim 9, wherein said at least two of a plurality of zones comprise four zones.

12. The device of claim 9, wherein the predetermined tilt orientation for all the reflecting elements in a zone is orthogonal to the tilt orientation of the one other zone of said at least two of a plurality of zones.

13 The device of claim 9, wherein said at least two of a plurality of zones are adjacent each other.

14. The device of claim 9, wherein each reflecting element is electrically actuated, being separately controlled by a control unit.

15. The device of claim 9, wherein a lens is further provided in front of the array in a predetermined distance from the array, placed in the on direction of all the reflecting elements, of the plurality of zones.

16. The device of claim 15, wherein a normal of a given reflecting element in a zone of said at least two of a plurality of zones, when the reflecting element is positioned in the off direction coincides at a point on a plane adjacent the lens with a normal of a corresponding reflecting element in one other zone of said at least two of a plurality of zones, when the corresponding reflecting element is positioned in the off direction.

17. A method for steering light comprising

providing at least two of a plurality of zones of separately controllable tiltable reflecting elements, each of the tiltable reflecting elements of a zone being capable of tilting about an axis of predetermined tilt orientation associated with the zone between a first reflecting position reflecting an incident beam to a predetermined first direction (on direction), and a second reflecting position reflecting the incident beam to a predetermined second direction (off direction), each of said at least two of a plurality of

zones having a predetermined off direction for all the reflecting elements in that zone, that is different from the off direction of at least one other zone of said at least two of a plurality of zones;

providing an illuminating beam source for separately illuminating each of said at least two of a plurality of zones of separately controllable tiltable reflecting elements

illuminating said at least two of a plurality of zones of separately controllable tiltable reflecting elements

separately manipulating each of the separately controllable tiltable reflecting elements between the on direction and off direction.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein each of said at least two of a plurality of zones having a predetermined tilt orientation for all the reflecting elements in that zone, that is different from the tilt orientation of at least one other zone of said at least two of a plurality of zones.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein said at least two of a plurality of zones comprise two zones.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein said at least two of a plurality of zones comprise four zones.